

GOODSELL SHOWS EVILS OF HEAVY BONDING AND STATES CASE FOR SMALL TAXPAYERS

Hon. Zaimon Goodsell, in an interview today, expresses his views upon heavy bonding, and especially upon proposed heavy bonding for sewers.

Mr. Goodsell, who would like to have your opinion in regard to the many statements of late in the local press relating to the inefficiency of the present sewer system in certain sections of our city.

"As all of our people are seemingly enjoying excellent health up to the present time, I see no immediate call to give the matter very serious attention," he replied. "When those parties who seem desirous of heavily bonding our city for a 'dead horse' issue, propose another large issue of bonds for an obsolete sewer system, I may or may not agitate the subject again."

On what grounds would you continue in defense of our present sewer system?

"The Three to One vote of our taxpayers refusing the last issue of bonds proposed for the modified Hering sewer system, proves that the taxpayers are educated in regard to the foolishness of the whole proposition."

Have you any other reason?

"Yes, I have spent during the past few years, more time and energy than I can afford to do again. That is, taking my health into consideration, my hobby in the future will be to devote the most of my time to its preservation."

Are you willing to express your opinion as to the damage done to our streets by the late heavy rains?

"Personally, I know of no damage done. There is probably no city of our size in the United States that has passed through as heavy a rainfall as we have had during the past ten days, with less inconvenience to its citizens or with less apparent damage done to our streets."

You must admit that in certain sections of our city the streets were overflooded to a greater or less extent during this heavy rain fall?

"Most assuredly they were, and I do not believe any sewer system will ever be built of sufficient size to take care of such a rain fall as we have had lately. As an illustration, think of the large area of surface of 150 miles of streets, sidewalks and gutters, besides the area of surface of roofs of the thousands of buildings located in our city. This enormous accumulation of water from a continuous hard rain confined in certain channels cannot be controlled by any present known sewer system. Nature under the above unusual circumstances must for a short time have its own way. No sewer wells with 6 or 8 inch outlets for connections to our main sewers will ever remove a river of water at once. It must take time for the sewer system to gradually carry off the surplus water. Many sewer wells and outlets about the city were clogged up with leaves, and as a consequence for connections to our main sewers certain sections of our city streets. The same conditions are certain to recur whenever we have long and copious rains. These slight inconveniences should be met with the happy thought we are much better off as well off as any of our sister cities. You cannot stop the rising of a high tide when it is raining copiously at the same time, nor avoid such unfortunate combinations."

In your opinion, is there any remedy?

"No, and I'll tell you why. Do you believe anyone could possibly analyze the cost and size of sewers large enough to carry off at once such a flood of rain water as we have been blessed with during the past ten days. Or do you believe any engineer could plan a pumping station of sufficient size to pump away Nature's bountiful supply of water as fast as Nature supplied the same. Don't you think it would be good policy to take what the good Lord gives us to enjoy and be thankful, because rain is certainly a blessing we often pray for."

Do you approve of the order of the court for a pumping station at Berkshire Bridge?

"The cause of all the senn at Berkshire bridge in my judgment has been removed. The liquid essence from fifty tons of garbage is not being emptied any longer into the Pequonnock River at the head of navigation. There will be no need of pumping water borne sewage from the west side of the Pequonnock River to the east side of the same. In fact, there never was any need of such an order of wasteful extravagance. You or I or any one can go up to the outlet of the Lindsey Street sewer, which is exposed at low tide and stand over the outlet of the sewer without any inconvenience from strong sewer odors. This Lindsey Street sewer takes care of household sewage and being water borne, by the time it reaches the mouth of the sewer, the odor is practically not noticeable, and the sewage it looks almost like clear water. This seems like one of the traps that are continually being planned by interested parties to force upon an unwilling majority of the people this modified Hering sewer system, when our citizens by a three to one vote expressed their positive objection to the whole business."

The unemployed garbage cans lying for many days at a time in my yard and in hundreds of other peoples yards is ten times more objectionable to our neighbors than sewage matter that is purified twice in twenty-four hours by antiseptic salt water. Just think of the number of criticisms you spoke of that are being made about our present sewer system, when these same interested parties have at a great cost to the taxpayers, built an entire new 18 inch sanitary sewer through Bishop avenue in the east end, and an additional sewer for surface water, size 18 by 15 in the same avenue; the inches in area of the 18 by 18 sanitary sewer amounts to 324 inches; the 10 by 15 water surface sewer amounts to 150 inches and added together amounts to 474 inches in area."

"On the other hand the Wilmot avenue trunk sewer size 54 by 38 amounts to 2,052 inches in area, a difference in favor of the Wilmot Avenue trunk sewer of 1,578 inches in area. This was the Scofield trunk sewer formerly built to cover the same section of territory now taken care of by this modified Hering sewer system. How does this picture suit our taxpayers? Isn't it a delightful prospect? These interested parties under this plan provide almost four-fifths less area of inches in space for future heavy rain falls, in the meantime, the Wilmot Avenue trunk sewer is headed up and the thousands of dollars it cost, totally wasted."

"Our Board of Aldermen passed the resolution adopting the modified Hering system for the future sewage of Bridgeport. Through the influence of these interested parties, and under this system, they will eventually have laid in our outlying streets many miles of 18 inch sanitary sewer pipes and 44 miles of 8 inch sanitary sewer pipe in adjacent streets to connect with these 10 inch mains, which in my judgment is a farce, as I do not believe that the people of Trumbull, Stepping, or Easton, or Monroe, would ever allow such small sanitary sewer pipes to be laid in the streets of their towns, but the order has been passed by our Board of Aldermen to go ahead with this modified Hering sewer system which means later on the adoption of the whole Hering sewer plan as originally projected; and the question must arise sooner or later among our citizens what they are going to do about such a condition of things. Personally, I have not the least doubt that the time will come in future years when this obsolete Hering sewer system now being built will all be torn up and larger sewer mains installed again through our city streets."

Are you in favor of the bonding schemes that have been proposed?

"Which ones do specially refer to? What about the Bridges first? For the next five years or more, I am opposed to bridge bonds of any kind. Are you ready to give your reasons why?"

"During the present administration, we have issued bonds enough to cover a period of at least five years, and although travel may be inconvenienced at certain hours of the day at the lower or Stratford Avenue bridge, it will not be extensive enough to advocate further bonding at the present time, although I am satisfied that later on we will require a wider bridge at Stratford Avenue. Such a bond that is not now built upon that the widening of this bridge will eventually require should be taken now by condemnation proceedings."

Are you in favor of bonding for a new almshouse?

No, I am not in favor of it. My judgment is, that the Board of Apportionment should appropriate from \$40,000 to \$50,000 for a building suitable for sleeping purposes only, and the additional room gained in the present building could be rearranged for the children that live near by."

Are you willing to bond for the North End Park?

"I believe as we are a Park City, a tract of land should be secured on the installment plan by the payment of say \$6,000 a year during the next five years. This fast growing section of our city needs a playground for the children that live near by which will keep the children off the streets, thus avoiding trolley and automobile accidents, and will in years to come be the means of saving many lives and accidents in that section of our city. It means besides a good asset for the city to own, which is a very unusual proceeding in past proposed bond issues."

Mr. Goodsell, you are evidently opposed to bonding?

"I certainly am. If the \$4,000,000 of proposed bonds asked for during the present administration had been granted, and under the same administration, other bonding measures should be proposed in the future, of equal amounts, how many years would it take to wipe the credit of Bridgeport off the financial map? As it is, we have issued during the present administration bonds of ample magnitude, which if continued for a few years longer, would also wipe the credit of Bridgeport off the financial map."

"For many years after the permanent pavement which we are now laying in our streets has been mostly worn out, our taxpayers will be paying almost four-fifths less in taxes. I would much prefer and believe it would be to the interest of the city at large and especially to the smaller home owners of our city to pay a little larger tax each year, than to pay a very large eventual saving would be very large. Money would not be spent in nearly as large amounts, and the factor of heavier tax. From this point of view, save the original amount of the bonds issued."

Mr. Goodsell are you willing to express an opinion as to the coming election?

"I believe the large majority of the citizens and taxpayers of Bridgeport want an economical government and no more bonding, even if we pay a heavier tax. From this point of view, my judgment would be that Frederick C. Mullins should be elected as Mayor of our City by a very handsome majority."



SAMUEL L. JOHNSON

Alderman 5th District

Samuel L. Johnson, candidate for alderman of the Fifth district, who resides at 170 Linwood avenue, is 42 years old. Born in Sweden, he came to this country seventeen years ago, and has been a resident in the district in which he runs for the past three years.

He will be well remembered as the cheerful and courteous proprietor of the Golden Hill Market in Fairfield avenue which he owned for fourteen years. He is at present a salesman for the Cudahy Packing company and this will be his first attempt at securing public office which he promises to fill if elected with an honesty of purpose and in accordance with the best interests of his district.

Mr. Johnson is strictly a man of domestic habits and belongs to no fraternal orders, though always active in the interests of his party which he has supported staunchly since his advent into this country.

CLAIRVOYANT TRUST

SWINDLER IN DEMAND

Chicago, Nov. 1.—Said to be wanted as a swindler in England, Canada and a dozen American cities, "Professor" Charles Dennis, member of the alleged "Clairvoyant Trust," which was broken up here, last spring, is in the hands of the Chicago police and will face trial on several indictments charging fraud.

Dennis was arrested in Boston, Oct. 24 and was held in secrecy until turned over to the Chicago police. He was brought back here, last night.

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Want Ads Gent a Word.

CARL J. RISING

City Sheriff

Carl J. Rising, one of the Democratic nominees for City Sheriff, is no stranger to the Democracy of Bridgeport. He has filled this position for one term with commendable efficiency, and no complaint has ever been made of his manner of conducting the office.

Mr. Rising is a well known resident of the South End. He is a leader in Swedish-American affairs of the city and for a number of years has taken a most active interest in the affairs of the Democracy in nation, state and city. Besides having served one term as sheriff, he has filled the post of selectman. He maintains an office in the center of the city and he has the friendship of the leading members of the legal profession for whom he is often called upon to act.

Mr. Rising is a native of Sweden, where he received an education in the grammar and high schools. He came to this country as a young man, and made his home in Bridgeport.

STATE RELIGION BOTHERS CHINESE

Christians, Confucianists, Mohammedans, Buddhists and Taoists Included in New Republic.

Peking, Nov. 1.—In the process of drafting a permanent Constitution for the Chinese Republic the question as to whether there is to be a recognized state religion looms large at present in the discussions at Peking.

A decided Confucian revival has been in progress in recent months and this has found its expression in the organization of the Confucian Association, which includes many distinguished scholars of the Republic. One of the central figures of the movement is Dr. Chen Huan-chang, author of the book, "The Economical Principles of Confucius and his School," who has received the highest literary honors in China and also the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Columbia University, New York.

With other Chinese literati, he has been carrying on a most energetic campaign to influence the members of Parliament to vote in favor of inserting in the Constitution some such statement as follows: "Confucianism shall become the state religion, while religious liberty shall be accorded to the people of China." A petition to this effect has been presented to the Assembly. Following Western methods of lobbying, Dr. Chen has interviewed practically all members of Parliament in the support of this movement.

Before the establishment of the Republic, prejudice against Christianity was great, but in the Provisional Constitution freedom of religion was provided for, and in China as well as Mohammedans, Buddhists, and Taoists have had before the State at least presumptive equality with Confucianists. President Yuan Shih-kai said in a speech before the National Assembly on April 25, 1912: "In view of the religious liberty of the people, all religions will be regarded as being on the same footing, and there will be no discrimination against any particular one. There should be mutual respect and avoidance of mutual distrust among the people irrespective of whether they practice any particular religion or not, or whatever faith they embrace, so that they may all share in the enjoyment of public peace and happiness."

Naturally enough the Christians of the Republic, not numbering almost a million, including all branches of the Christian Church, are not standing idly by watching without protest the movement to establish Confucianism as the state religion. A committee of seven has been selected and a counter-movement is under way. The duty of the committee is that of informing Christians throughout the country concerning the various activities of the Confucian propaganda and they are also seeing to it that a counter-petition is presented to the Assembly, calling for unconditional religious liberty and rejecting the proposal to have a state religion for the Republic. Moreover, agitation against Confucianism or any other religion becoming an acknowledged national religion is under way in the Chinese press.

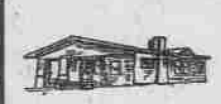
This protest of Chinese Christians is not against Confucianism as such, but simply in favor of the distinct separation of religion and politics in the new Republic. All that is asked for is freedom of conscience for Taoists, Buddhists, and Mohammedans, as well as for Christians, it being believed that to make Confucianism a state religion will inevitably mean not only a reactionary policy involving a certain degree of restriction of other religious bodies but also an added cause of discussion and strife in the Republic. The Confucianist agitators, on the other hand, believe that to have a state religion will provide a much-needed rallying point for patriots.

OFF ON HUNTING TRIP.

"Curly" Ryan, better known as the "Oleo King," of the Bronx Hotel, Andy MacPherson, Al Olsen and Bill Olsen left early yesterday morning in the former's touring car for the wilds of Kingsman, Maine, on a ten days' hunting trip. Mr. Ryan plans to bring back a deer or moose which will be used in celebrating the formal opening of the Bronx Hotel, Bishop and Stratford avenues, which will take place in the near future.

"Johnny, I don't believe you've studied your geography."

"No, mum; I heard pa say the map of the world was changing every day, an' I thought I'd wait a few years till things got settled."—Brooklyn Life.



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